

PRESS RELEASE

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INDICTMENTS CHARGING ROCK COUNTY RESIDENTS UNSEALED

Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced the unsealing of four indictments returned by federal grand jury sitting in Madison last week.

Michael Hughes, Arthur Connor and Darrick Robison

Michael Hughes, 32, of Beloit, Wisconsin, was charged in a three-count indictment alleging that he distributed over five grams of crack cocaine on December 20, 2006, January 10, 2007, and January 18, 2007.

Arthur Connor, 30, of Beloit, is alleged to have distributed over five grams of cocaine base on December 20, 2006, along with Hughes. Hughes and Connor both face at least five years in prison, along with maximum penalties of 40 years in prison, a \$2,000,000 fine, and at least four years supervised release if convicted.

Darrick Robison, 31, of Beloit, is alleged to have distributed over five grams of cocaine base on January 10, 2007, along with Hughes. Hughes and Robison both face at least five years in prison, along with maximum penalties of 40 years in prison, a

\$2,000,000 fine, and a four-year term of supervised release if convicted.

Abdul Harriel

Abdul Harriel, 27, of Beloit, was charged in three-count indictment with distributing crack cocaine. Harriel faces a mandatory minimum five years in prison along with maximum penalties of 40 years in prison, a \$2 million fine, and at least a four-year term of supervised release on each count of the indictment if convicted.

Jennifer Zweifel

Jennifer Zweifel, 32, of Janesville, was charged with two counts of distributing crack cocaine. She faces a mandatory minimum five years in prison along with maximum penalties of 40 years in prison, a \$2 million fine, and at least a four-year term of supervised release on each count of the indictment if convicted.

Jerome Hughes

Jerome Hughes, 31, of Beloit, is charged with distributing over five grams of crack cocaine on three occasions. He faces a mandatory minimum five years in prison along with maximum penalties of 40 years in prison, a \$2 million fine, and at least a four-year term of supervised release on each count of the indictment if convicted.

The charges against these defendants are the result of an investigation conducted by the Safe Streets Task Force operating in Rock County. This task force includes agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Rock County Sheriff's Department, the Beloit Police Department, the Janesville Police Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation - Narcotics Bureau. The prosecution of these cases has been

assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul W. Connell.

You are advised that a charge is merely an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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